Institute of Aeronautical Science in Tamil Nadu

2280. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to set up an Institute of Aeronautical Science and Training of Pilots Academy in the State of Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are considering to conduct Techno-Feasibility Study on the above; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (d) There is no such proposal with the Ministry of Civil Aviation.

Restarting operation at Salem Airport

2281. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to modernize Madurai, Coimbatore and Trichy airports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that civil aviation operation from Salem Airport has been discontinued for a long time;

(d) if so, the reasons therefore; and

(e) whether Government are considering to restart operation from Salem Airport?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. At Madurai airport, the runway is being extended and strengthened for operation of A320/B737-800 type of aircrafts. Expansion of apron for parking 5 aircrafts, additional link taxiway, isolation bay and associated facilities have also been taken

up. Work for installation of ILS on runway 27 is in progress. There is a proposal Tor construction of a new integrated Terminal Building Complex for handling 500 passengers at a time with all modem amenities and facilities including installation of two aerobridges. A proposal for extension of runway will be initiated once the availability of land, free of cost, is confirmed by the State Government.

At Coimbatore Airport, Airports Authority of India (AAI) has awarded work for extension of runway in November, 2006. Expansion and strengthening of the apron is in progress. Expansion and modification of existing terminal building for handling 300 arriving and 300 departing passengers at a time for domestic and international sectors with all modern amenities including two aerobridges is being taken up. There is also a proposal to construct a new integrated Terminal Building for which land has been identified and projected to the District Administration. Additional land is to be provided by Government of Tamil Nadu free of cost for further extension of Runway towards north-east direction.

At Tiruchirapalli airport, work has been taken up for extension of runway towards east for operation of A320/B737-800 type of aircrafts alongwith construction of isolated bay and a new Cat-VI fire station. The work for construction of a new integrated Terminal Building for handling 400 passengers at a time with all modern facilities including two aerobridges and extension of apron has already been awarded. There is also a proposal for extension of runway for which availability of land is to be confirmed by the State Government.

(c) to (e) No, Sir. Salem is an operational airport. Presently, non-scheduled operations are taking place at Salem Airport. The airport is having all facilities for handling scheduled flights of ATR72/B737-200 type of aircrafts but no airline operator has indicated willingness to commence scheduled services.

Setting up of MRO facilities

2282. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have shelved the Mega plans of Air India and Indian to set up independent subsidiaries for Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul;